# QUARK MASS EFFECTS IN DEEPLY INELASTIC SCATTERING

#### A.V. Kisselev\*)

Theoretical Physics Division, CERN
CH - 1211 Geneva 23
and
Institute for High Energy Physics
142284 Protvino, Russia

#### V.A. Petrov

Institute for High Energy Physics 142284 Protvino, Russia

#### Abstract

We argue that the difference between the structure functions corresponding to deep inelastic scattering with and without heavy quarks in the current fragmentation region scales at high  $Q^2$  and fixed (low)  $x_{Bj}$ .

CERN-TH/96-110 April 1996

 $<sup>^{*)}</sup>$  Permanent address: Institute for High Energy Physics, 142284 Protvino, Russia. E-mail address: kisselev@mx.ihep.su.

#### 1 Introduction

Quite often mass effects in high–energy collisions are considered as some not very spectacular corrections which finally die off. Nonetheless, it appears that in  $e^+e^-$  annihilation even such overall characteristics as hadron multiplicities are quite sensitive to the value of masses of the primary  $q\bar{q}$  pairs [1].

Recent considerations have shown that calculations based on QCD agree well with the data at high enough energy [2] and that they yield an asymptotically constant difference between multiplicities of hadrons induced by the primary quarks of different masses.

In this paper we consider the possibility of a similar effect in a deeply inelastic process.

### 2 Calculation of quark mass dependence

Let us consider, for definiteness, deep inelastic scattering of the electron (muon) off the proton. The hadronic tensor (an imaginary part of the virtual photon–proton amplitude) is defined via the electromagnetic current  $J_{\mu}$ :

$$W_{\mu\nu}(p,q) = \frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^2 \int d^4z \exp(iqz) \langle p | [J_{\mu}(z), J_{\nu}(0)] | p \rangle, \tag{1}$$

where p is the momentum of the proton,  $p^2 = M^2$ , and q is the momentum of virtual photon,  $q^2 = -Q^2 < 0$ .

A symmetric part of  $W_{\mu\nu}$  has two Lorentz structures:

$$W_{\mu\nu} = \left(-g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{q_{\nu}q_{\nu}}{q^2}\right) F_1(Q^2, x) + \frac{1}{pq} \left(p_{\mu} - q_{\mu}\frac{pq}{q^2}\right) \left(p_{\nu} - q_{\nu}\frac{pq}{q^2}\right) F_2(Q^2, x), \tag{2}$$

where the structure functions  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  depend on  $Q^2$  and on the variable

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{pq + \sqrt{(pq)^2 + Q^2M^2}}.$$
 (3)

In what follows we will analyse the structure function  $F_2$  of deep inelastic scattering with open charm (beauty) production at small x. In this section we consider the case of one single quark loop with mass  $m_q$  and electric charge  $e_q$ . A general case will be discussed in Section 2.

At small x a leading contribution to  $F_2$  comes from one photon–gluon fusion subprocess [4]:

$$W_{\mu\nu} = \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^4} C^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu}(q, k; m_q) d_{\alpha\alpha'}(k) d_{\beta\beta'}(k) \Gamma^{\alpha'\beta'}(k, p), \tag{4}$$

where k is the momentum of the virtual gluon,  $k^2 < 0$ . The tensor  $C^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu}$  denotes an imaginary two gluon irreducible part of the photon–gluon amplitude, while  $\Gamma^{\alpha\beta}$  describes a distribution of the gluon inside the proton. A quantity  $d_{\alpha\beta}$  is a tensor part of the gluonic propagator.

Let us choose an infinite momentum frame

$$p_{\mu} = \left(P + \frac{M^2}{4P}, 0, 0, P - \frac{M^2}{4P}\right). \tag{5}$$

Then the gluon distribution  $\Gamma^{\alpha\beta}$  has to be calculated in the axial gauge nA=0 with a gauge vector  $n_{\mu}=(1,0,0,-1)$  [4]. One can take, for instance,

$$n_{\mu} = q_{\mu} + xp_{\mu} \tag{6}$$

with x defined by Eq. (3).

From Eq. (2) we get

$$\frac{1}{x}F_2 = \left[-g_{\mu\nu} + p_\mu p_\nu \frac{3Q^2}{(pq)^2 + Q^2 M^2}\right] W^{\mu\nu} \equiv F_2^{(a)} + F_2^{(b)}.$$
 (7)

Two terms in the RHS of Eq. (7),  $F_2^{(a)}$  and  $F_2^{(b)}$ , correspond to two tensor projectors,  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and  $p_{\mu}p_{\nu}$ .

Note that the structure function  $F_L = F_2 - 2xF_1$  is completely defined by the term  $p_{\mu}p_{\nu}$  and, thus, proportional to  $F_2^{(b)}$ .

By definition, the gluon distribution  $\Gamma^{\alpha\beta}$  can be rewritten in the form

$$\Gamma^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{n} \delta(p + k - p_n) \langle p | I_{\alpha}^g(0) | n \rangle \langle n | I_{\beta}^g(0) | p \rangle, \tag{8}$$

where  $I_{\alpha}^{g}$  is the conserved current. Both  $|p\rangle$  and  $|n\rangle$  are on shell states that result in

$$k^{\alpha}\Gamma_{\alpha\beta} = 0. \tag{9}$$

From an explicit form for  $C^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu}$  (see Appendix I) one can verify that it obeys the same condition:

$$k^{\alpha}C^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} = 0. \tag{10}$$

Equations (9) and (10) allow us to simplify expression (4) and get (r = a, b):

$$\frac{1}{x}F_2^{(r)} = \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^4} C_{\alpha\beta}^{(r)}(q, k; m_q) \Gamma^{\alpha\beta}(k, p), \tag{11}$$

with the notations

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)} = -g_{\mu\nu}C_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu}, C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)} = \frac{3Q^2}{(pq)^2 + Q^2M^2}p_{\mu}p_{\nu}C_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu}.$$
(12)

The tensor  $\Gamma^{\alpha\beta}$  can be expanded in Lorentz structures

$$\Gamma^{\alpha\beta} = \left(g_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{k_{\alpha}k_{\beta}}{k^{2}}\right)\Gamma_{1} + \left(p_{\alpha} - k_{\alpha}\frac{pk}{k^{2}}\right)\left(p_{\beta} - k_{\beta}\frac{pk}{k^{2}}\right)\frac{1}{k^{2}}\Gamma_{2} + \left(k_{\alpha} - n_{\alpha}\frac{k^{2}}{kn}\right)\left(k_{\beta} - n_{\beta}\frac{k^{2}}{kn}\right)\frac{1}{k^{2}}\Gamma_{3} + \left(p_{\alpha} - n_{\alpha}\frac{pk}{kn}\right)\left(p_{\beta} - n_{\beta}\frac{pk}{kn}\right)\frac{1}{k^{2}}\Gamma_{4}$$

$$(13)$$

with  $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_i(k^2, M^2, pk)$ .

Let us consider a contribution of the invariant function  $\Gamma_1$  into the structure function  $F_2$  (11). With the accounting for (9) and (10) we obtain

$$\frac{1}{x}F_2^{(r)} = e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2(z/x)} \frac{dl^2}{l^2} \frac{1 - l^2 x^2 / Q^2 z^2}{1 + M^2 x^2 / Q^2} C^{(r)} \left(\frac{Q^2}{l^2}, \frac{m_q^2}{l^2}, \frac{x}{z}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} g(l^2, z), \tag{14}$$

where

$$l^2 = -k^2 > 0, (15)$$

$$z = \frac{kn}{pn} \tag{16}$$

and

$$Q_0^2 = \frac{M^2 z^2}{1 - z}. (17)$$

Here we used the notation:

$$C^{(r)} = -g^{\alpha\beta}C_{\alpha\beta}^{(r)}. (18)$$

In Eq. (14) the gluon distribution,  $g(l^2, z)$ , is introduced:

$$g(l^2, z) = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^4} \int_{Q_0^2}^{l^2} \frac{dl'^2}{l'^4} \int d^2k_\perp \Gamma_1(l'^2, k_\perp, z).$$
 (19)

If we use the new variable

$$\xi = \frac{-k^2}{pk + \sqrt{(pk)^2 - k^2 M^2}} \tag{20}$$

instead of  $k_{\perp}^2$ , we will arrive at the expression

$$g(l^2, z) = \frac{z}{32\pi^3} \int_{Q_0^2}^{l^2} \frac{dl'^2}{l'^4} \int_z^1 d\xi \left( M^2 + \frac{l'^2}{\xi^2} \right) \Gamma_1(l'^2, \xi).$$
 (21)

A thorough analysis shows, however, that the main contribution to  $F_2$  at small x comes from  $\Gamma_2$  and  $\Gamma_4$  in (13) (see also Appendix II). In Appendix I the following formula for  $F_2$  is

obtained:

$$\frac{1}{x}F_{2} = e_{q}^{2} \sum_{r=a,b} \int_{z}^{1} \frac{dz}{z} \int_{Q_{0}^{2}}^{Q^{2}(z-x)/x} \frac{dl^{2}}{l^{2}} \left[ \tilde{C}^{(r)} \left( \frac{Q^{2}}{l^{2}}, \frac{m_{q}^{2}}{l^{2}}, \frac{x}{z} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^{2}} G(l^{2}, z) + \hat{C}^{(r)} \left( \frac{Q^{2}}{l^{2}}, \frac{m_{q}^{2}}{l^{2}}, \frac{x}{z} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^{2}} \hat{G}(l^{2}, z) \right]. \tag{22}$$

As we are interested in a calculation of the difference of the structure functions corresponding to the massive and massless cases, we preserve those terms in  $C^{(r)}$  which give a leading contribution to  $\Delta F_2$ . In Appendix I we have calculated the functions  $C^{(a)}$  in lowest order in the strong coupling  $\alpha_s$ :

$$\tilde{C}^{(a)}(u,v,y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \{ [(1-y)^2 + y^2] L(u,v,y) - [(1-y)^2 + y^2 - 2v] M(v,y) - 1 \}, 
\hat{C}^{(a)}(u,v,y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} y (1-y) M(v,y),$$
(23)

where

$$L(u, v, y) = \ln \frac{u(1-y)}{y[v+y(1-y)]},$$

$$M(v, y) = \frac{y(1-y)}{v+y(1-y)}.$$
(24)

As for the gluon distributions, they are given by the formulae:

$$G = \frac{1}{32\pi^3 z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{l^2} \frac{dl'^2}{l'^4} \int_z^1 \frac{d\xi}{\xi} (\xi - z) \left( M^2 + \frac{l'^2}{\xi^2} \right) \left[ \Gamma_2(l'^2, \xi) + \Gamma_4(l'^2, \xi) \right], \tag{25}$$

$$\hat{G} = \frac{1}{32\pi^3 z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{l^2} \frac{dl'^2}{l'^4} \int_{z}^{1} d\xi \left( M^2 + \frac{l'^2}{\xi^2} \right) \left[ \frac{(2\xi - z)^2}{4\xi^2} \Gamma_2(l'^2, \xi) + \Gamma_4(l'^2, \xi) \right]. \tag{26}$$

The analogous expressions for the functions  $C^{(b)}$  are the following:

$$\tilde{C}^{(b)}(u,v,y) = \frac{3\alpha_s}{2\pi} \frac{1}{u} y \{ 2y[(1-2y)(1-y)-v]L(u,v,y) 
+ (1-y)[(1-y)^2 + y^2 - 2v]M(v,y) \} + \frac{3\alpha}{2\pi} y(1-y), 
\hat{C}^{(b)}(u,v,y) = -\frac{12\alpha_s}{\pi} \frac{1}{u} y^2 (1-y)^2 M(v,y).$$
(27)

It may be shown that the leading contribution to  $\Delta F_2$  comes from the region  $l^2 \sim m_q^2$ ,  $k^2 = -l^2$  being the gluon virtuality (see Appendix I). Then one can easily see from (24) and

(28) that the first two terms in  $\tilde{C}^{(b)}$  are suppressed by the factor  $k^2/Q^2$  with respect to  $\tilde{C}^{(a)}$ , while the third terms in  $\tilde{C}^{(b)}$  do not contribute to the difference  $C^{(b)}|_{m=0} - C^{(b)}|_{m\neq 0}$ .

In the leading logarithmic approximation (LLA), only the function L remaines in Eqs. (23), which results in

$$\frac{1}{x}\frac{\partial}{\partial \ln Q^2}F_2(Q^2, x) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \int_{x}^{1} \frac{dz}{z} P_{qg}\left(\frac{x}{z}\right) G(Q^2, z), \tag{28}$$

where  $P_{qg}(z)$  is the Altarelli–Parisi splitting function and  $G(Q^2, z)$  is the gluon distribution in LLA defined by Eq. (25).

The gluon distribution (25) in LLA can be rewritten in the form (compare it with the corresponding formulae in Appendix II)

$$G(Q^2, z) = \frac{1 - z}{4z^2} \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dl^2}{l^4} \int \frac{d^2k_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^4} [\Gamma_2(l^2, k_{\perp}, z) + \Gamma_4(l^2, k_{\perp}, z)].$$
 (29)

It is clear from (22) that  $\Delta F_2 = F_2|_{m=0} - F_2|_{m\neq 0}$  is defined by the quantities (r=a,b)

$$\Delta C^{(r)}(u, v, y) = C^{(r)}(u, 0, y) - C^{(r)}(u, v, y). \tag{30}$$

By using Eq. (23) we obtain the important result

$$\Delta \tilde{C}^{(a)} = \Delta \tilde{C}^{(a)}(v, y) 
\Delta \hat{C}^{(a)} = \Delta \hat{C}^{(a)}(v, y),$$
(31)

while from (27) we get

$$\Delta \tilde{C}^{(b)} = \frac{1}{u} \Delta \tilde{C}^{(b)}(v, y),$$

$$\Delta \hat{C}^{(b)} = \frac{1}{u} \Delta \hat{C}^{(b)}(v, y).$$
(32)

In this, we have

$$\Delta \tilde{C}^{(a)}, \Delta \hat{C}^{(a)}|_{-k^2 \to \infty} \sim \frac{m_q^2}{k^2}.$$
 (33)

So, we get [3]

$$\frac{1}{x}\Delta F_2(Q^2, m_q^2, x)|_{Q^2 \to \infty} = e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{\infty} \frac{dl^2}{l^2} \left[ \Delta \tilde{C} \left( \frac{m_q^2}{l^2}, \frac{x}{z} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} G(l^2, z) + \Delta \hat{C} \left( \frac{m_q^2}{l^2}, \frac{x}{z} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} \hat{G}(l^2, z) \right].$$
(34)

Here

$$\Delta \tilde{C}(v,y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left\{ [(1-y)^2 + y^2] \ln \left[ 1 + \frac{v}{y(1-y)} \right] - \frac{v}{v+y(1-y)} \right\}, 
\Delta \hat{C}(v,y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} y (1-y) \frac{v}{v+y(1-y)}$$
(35)

with  $G(l^2, z)$  and  $\hat{G}(l^2, z)$  being defined by Eqs. (25) and (26).

The integral in  $l^2$  (34) converges because of condition (33). Contributions from  $\Delta \tilde{C}^{(b)}$  and  $\Delta \hat{C}^{(b)}$  are suppressed by the factors  $(m^2/Q^2) \ln Q^2$  and can thus be omitted.

Let us consider the gluon distribution  $\hat{G}$  (26). At small z the leading contribution to  $\hat{G}(l^2, z)$  comes from the region  $z \ll \xi$ , and we have

$$\hat{G}(l^2, z) \simeq G(l^2, z). \tag{36}$$

Taking expression (36) into account, the structure function  $F_2$  (22) has the following form at low x (with the term of the order of  $k^2/Q^2$  and  $m^2/Q^2$  subtracted)

$$\frac{1}{x}F_2 = e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2(z-x)/x} \frac{dl^2}{l^2} C\left(\frac{Q^2}{l^2}, \frac{m_q^2}{l^2}, \frac{x}{z}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} G(l^2, z), \tag{37}$$

where

$$C(u, v, y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \{ [(1-y)^2 + y^2] L(u, v, y) - [(1-3y)^2 - 3y^2 - 2v] M(v, y) - 1 \}.$$
 (38)

As for the difference of the structure function, we obtain the following prediction

$$\frac{1}{x}\Delta F_2(Q^2, m_q^2, x) = \frac{1}{x}\Delta F_2(m_q^2, x) = e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \int_{Q_0^2}^{\infty} \frac{dl^2}{l^2} \Delta C\left(\frac{m_q^2}{l^2}, \frac{x}{z}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} G(l^2, z), \tag{39}$$

where

$$\Delta C(v,y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \left[ (1-y)^2 + y^2 \right] \left\{ \ln \left[ 1 + \frac{v}{y(1-y)} \right] - (1-2y)^2 \frac{v}{v + y(1-y)} \right\}. \tag{40}$$

### 3 Relation between measurable structure functions

Up to now, we considered those contributions to  $F_2$  that came from the quark with electric charge  $e_q$  and mass  $m_q$ ,  $\tilde{F}_2|_{m\neq 0}$ . Then we have taken the analogous contributions from the massless quark with the same  $e_q$ ,  $\tilde{F}_2|_{m=0}$ , and have calculated the quantity  $\tilde{F}_2|_{m=0} - \tilde{F}_2|_{m\neq 0}$ .

The total structure function  $F_2$  has the form

$$F_2(Q^2, x) = \sum_q e_q^2 \tilde{F}_2^q(Q^2, x), \tag{41}$$

where the functions  $\tilde{F}_2^q$  are introduced (q = u, d, s, c, b).

The structure functions describing open charm and bottom production in DIS,  $F_2^c$  and  $F_2^b$  respectively, are related to  $\tilde{F}_2^c$  and  $\tilde{F}_2^b$  by the formulae

$$F_2^c = \frac{4}{9}\tilde{F}_2^c, F_2^b = \frac{1}{9}\tilde{F}_2^b.$$
 (42)

At low x one can put  $(m_u = m_d = m_s = 0 \text{ is assumed})$ 

$$\tilde{F}_{2}^{u} = \tilde{F}_{2}^{d} = \tilde{F}_{2}^{s} = \tilde{F}_{2} \tag{43}$$

and define the difference between heavy and light flavour contributions to  $F_2$ :

$$\Delta \tilde{F}_2^c = \tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_2^c,$$

$$\Delta \tilde{F}_2^b = \tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_2^b.$$
(44)

Notice that there are the functions  $\tilde{F}_2$  and  $\tilde{F}_2^q$  that have been calculated in the previous section (see Eqs (37) and (39)).

Let us now represent the function  $\tilde{F}_2$  (37) in the following form

$$\frac{1}{x}\tilde{F}_2 = \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} \int_0^Y d\eta \, C(\eta, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^2} G\left(Y - \eta, \frac{x}{y}\right),\tag{45}$$

where we denote

$$Y = \ln \frac{Q^2}{yQ_0^2} \tag{46}$$

and introduce the variable  $\eta = \ln(k^2/Q_0^2)$ .

Analogously, we get from (39)

$$\frac{1}{x}\Delta \tilde{F}_{2}^{q} = \int_{x}^{1} \frac{dy}{y} \int_{-\infty}^{Y_{m}} d\eta \, \Delta C(\eta, y) \frac{\partial}{\partial \ln l^{2}} G\left(Y_{m} - \eta, \frac{x}{y}\right),\tag{47}$$

with

$$Y_m = \ln \frac{m_q^2}{yQ_0^2}. (48)$$

Here  $\eta = \ln(m_q^2/k^2y(1-y)) \simeq \ln(m_q^2/k^2y)$  (remember that we consider small x).

The expression for  $\Delta C$  is given by Eq. (40) and, in terms of the variables  $\eta$  and y, looks like

$$\Delta C = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} [(1-y)^2 + y^2] \left[ \ln(1+e^{\eta}) - (1-2y)^2 \frac{e^{\eta}}{1+e^{\eta}} \right]. \tag{49}$$

As for the expression for C, it has to be defined via relation (11) and exact formulae (I.14) and (I.21) taken at m = 0. The result of our calculations is of the form

$$C(\eta, y) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2U} \ln \frac{1+U}{1-U} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{U^2} V + V \right) - \left( 1 - \frac{3}{U^2} V \right) \right],\tag{50}$$

where

$$U = \sqrt{1 - 4y(1 - y)e^{-\eta}},$$

$$V = (1 - y) \left[ y + (1 - y)e^{-\eta} \right] \left( 1 - e^{-\eta} \right).$$
(51)

It is clear from (49) that

$$\Delta C(\eta, y) > 0 \tag{52}$$

for  $-\infty < \eta < \infty$ ,  $0 \le y \le 1$  and  $\Delta C(\eta, y)$  is negligible at  $\eta < 0$  (see Figs. 1a-1d).

Moreover, the quantitative analysis shows that at most at  $y \leq 0.2$ , which is relevant for small x as under consideration, one has

$$C(\eta, y) > \Delta C(\eta, y), \qquad \eta > 0,$$
 (53)

(see Figs. 2a-2d). Neglecting the small contribution to  $\tilde{F}_2$  from the region  $\eta < 0$  and taking into account that  $\partial G(Q^2, x)/\partial \ln Q^2 > 0$  at small x (cf. [5]), we thus conclude

$$\Delta \tilde{F}_2^q(m_q^2, x) < \tilde{F}_2(Q^2, x)|_{Q^2 = m_q^2}. \tag{54}$$

In terms of the observables  $F_2$ ,  $F_2^c$  and  $F_2^b$ , the inequalities (52) and (54) can be cast in the forms

$$\left(F_2 - 2.5F_2^c - F_2^b\right) (Q^2, x)|_{\text{large } Q^2} > 0, 
\left(F_2 - F_2^c - 7F_2^b\right) (Q^2, x)|_{\text{large } Q^2} > 0$$
(55)

and

$$\left(F_2 - 2.5F_2^c - F_2^b\right)(Q^2, x) < \left(F_2 - F_2^c - F_2^b\right)(Q^2, x)|_{Q^2 = m_c^2}, 
\left(F_2 - F_2^c - 7F_2^b\right)(Q^2, x) < \left(F_2 - F_2^c - F_2^b\right)(Q^2, x)|_{Q^2 = m_b^2}.$$
(56)

Data on the total structure function  $F_2$  for  $Q^2$  between 1.5 GeV<sup>2</sup> and 5000 GeV<sup>2</sup> and x between  $3 \times 10^{-5}$  and 0.32 are now available [6]. As for the charm structure function, there are preliminary low–x data on  $F_2^c$  at  $Q^2=13$  GeV<sup>2</sup>, 23 GeV<sup>2</sup> and 50 GeV<sup>2</sup> with rather large errors [7].

Using the first of the inequalities (56) we get (assuming  $F_2^c(m_c^2, x)$ ,  $F_2^b(m_c^2, x) \simeq 0$  (cf. [8]))

$$F_2^c(Q^2, x) > 0.4 \left[ F_2(Q^2, x) - F_2^b(Q^2, x) - F_2(m_c^2, x) \right].$$
 (57)

Let us estimate  $F_2^c(Q^2, x)$  from below for  $x = 5 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $x = 5 \times 10^{-4}$  and several values of  $Q^2$ . There are data on  $F_2(Q^2, x)$  for  $Q^2 = 2.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ ,  $x = 4 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $Q^2 = 2.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ ,  $x = 6.3 \times 10^{-4}$  [6]. The relative bottom contribution,  $F_2^b/F_2$ , reaches at most 2 to 3% at HERA.

Putting  $F_2(m_c^2, 4.0 \times 10^{-3}) \simeq F_2(m_c^2, 5.0 \times 10^{-3})$  and  $F_2(m_c^2, 6.3 \times 10^{-4}) \simeq F_2(m_c^2, 5.0 \times 10^{-4})$  and choosing  $m_c = 1.58$  GeV we obtain from (??) the lower bounds for  $F_2^c$  presented in Tables 1 and 2.

$Q^2$ , $GeV^2$	12	25	45
$F_2^c(Q^2,x)$	$0.106 \pm 0.054$	$0.139 \pm 0.044$	$0.195 \pm 0.046$

**Table 1:** The lower bounds on  $F_2^c(Q^2, x)$  for  $x = 5 \times 10^{-3}$ .

Ī	$Q^2$ , $GeV^2$	12	25
Ī	$F_2^c(Q^2,x)$	$0.207 \pm 0.063$	$0.355 \pm 0.070$

**Table 2:** The lower bounds on  $F_2^c(Q^2, x)$  for  $x = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ .

These quantitative estimates of  $F_2^c$  do not contradict the preliminary data on the charm contribution to  $F_2$  [7]. For a detailed comparison of our predictions with the data, an improved measurement of the charm component  $F_2^c$  is required.

### Conclusions

In this paper we have demonstrated that the lowest-order quark loop contributions to the structure functions at small x contain mass-dependent terms which scale at high  $Q^2$ . This effect can be observed experimentally, and we predict theoretical bounds for the corresponding contributions from c- and b-quarks (see Eqs. (55) and (56), Tables 1 and 2).

#### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Profs. G. Veneziano and J.B. Dainton for stimulating conversations. We also thank Dr. A. De Roeck for a useful discussion of the data on  $F_2^c$  and for sending us the recent data on  $F_2$  from the H1 Collaboration. One of us (A.V.K.) is indebted to the Theoretical Physics Division of CERN for its hospitality and support during the course of this work.

#### Appendix I

In this section we calculate an imaginary part of the photon–gluon amplitude averaged in the photon Lorentz indices with the tensors  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and  $p_{\mu}p_{\nu}$  (see Eqs. (12)).

Let us consider the function  $C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)}$ . In the first order in the strong coupling  $\alpha_s$  (a one-loop approximation), it can be represented in the form

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)}(Q^2, k^2, qk) = \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi^2} \int d^4r \left[ \frac{1}{l^4} I_{\alpha\beta}^1(r, q, k; m^2) + \frac{1}{l^2 (2qk - l^2)} I_{\alpha\beta}^2(r, q, k; m^2) \right] \times \delta_+((q - r)^2 - m^2) \delta_+((k + r)^2 - m^2), \tag{I.1}$$

where

$$I_{\alpha\beta}^{1} = -g_{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{2} [(l^{4} - 2l^{2}qk - k^{2}Q^{2}) + 2m^{2}k^{2}] + r_{\alpha}r_{\beta}2(Q^{2} - 2m^{2})$$

$$+ (r_{\alpha}k_{\beta} + k_{\alpha}r_{\beta})(Q^{2} - 2m^{2}) - (r_{\alpha}q_{\beta} + r_{\alpha}q_{\beta})l^{2}$$

$$- (k_{\alpha}q_{\beta} + k_{\alpha}q_{\beta})l^{2}$$
(I.2)

corresponds to a contribution of a ladder diagram, while

$$I_{\alpha\beta}^{2} = g_{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{2} k^{2} [(k^{2} - Q^{2} + 2qk) - 2m^{2}] + r_{\alpha} r_{\beta} 2 [(Q^{2} + k^{2}) - 2m^{2}]$$

$$- k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} (l^{2} - Q^{2}) + q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} (l^{2} + k^{2})$$

$$- (r_{\alpha} k_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} r_{\beta}) [(l^{2} - Q^{2} - k^{2} - qk) + 2m^{2}]$$

$$- (r_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + r_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) [(l^{2} + Q^{2} - k^{2} - qk) - 2m^{2}]$$

$$- (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) \frac{1}{2} [(Q^{2} + k^{2}) - 2m^{2}]$$
(I.3)

is a contribution of a crossed one. In Eqs. (I.2) and (I.3) we denote

$$l^2 = m^2 - r^2. (I.4)$$

The following equality thus takes place

$$\int d^4r r_{\alpha} f(r^2) \delta_+((q-r)^2 - m^2) \delta_+((k+r)^2 - m^2)$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{D}} [k_{\alpha} A_1(Q^2, k^2, qk; m^2) + q_{\alpha} A_2(Q^2, k^2, qk; m^2)], \tag{I.5}$$

where

$$A_{1} = -\frac{1}{2D} \int_{l_{-}^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} [Q^{2}(qk + k^{2}) + l^{2}(qk - Q^{2})] f(l^{2}),$$

$$A_{2} = \frac{1}{2D} \int_{l^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} [l^{2}(qk + k^{2}) - k^{2}(qk - Q^{2})] f(l^{2})$$
(I.6)

with

$$l_{\pm}^{2} = (qk) \pm \left[ D(1 - \frac{4m^{2}}{s}) \right]^{1/2},$$

$$D = (qk)^{2} + Q^{2}k^{2},$$

$$s = k^{2} - Q^{2} + 2qk.$$
(I.7)

Analogously, we have

$$\int d^4r r_{\alpha} r_{\beta} f(r^2) \delta_{+}((q-r)^2 - m^2) \delta_{+}((k+r)^2 - m^2)$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{D}} [g_{\alpha\beta} B_1 + k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} B_2 + q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} B_3 + \frac{1}{2} (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha} k_{\beta}) B_4], \tag{I.8}$$

where

$$B_{1} = \int_{l_{-}^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{8D} Rs + \frac{1}{2} m^{2} \right\} f(l^{2}),$$

$$B_{2} = \int_{l_{-}^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} \left\{ -\frac{3}{8D^{2}} Q^{2} Rs + \frac{1}{4D} [(l^{2} - Q^{2})^{2} - 2m^{2} Q^{2}] \right\} f(l^{2}),$$

$$B_{3} = \int_{l_{-}^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} \left\{ \frac{3}{8D^{2}} k^{2} Rs + \frac{1}{4D} [(l^{2} + k^{2})^{2} + 2m^{2} k^{2}] \right\} f(l^{2}),$$

$$B_{4} = \int_{l_{-}^{2}}^{l_{+}^{2}} dl^{2} \left\{ -\frac{3}{4D^{2}} qkRs + \frac{1}{2D} [R - l^{2}s - 2m^{2}qk] \right\} f(l^{2}). \tag{I.9}$$

In Eqs. (I.9) a notation

$$R = l^4 - 2l^2qk - k^2Q^2 (I.10)$$

is introduced.

Accounting for all that was said above, we get

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)}(Q^2, k^2, qk) = \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{D}} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left[ \frac{1}{l^4} \tilde{I}_{\alpha\beta}^1(l^2, q, k; m^2) + \frac{1}{l^2 (2qk - l^2)} \tilde{I}_{\alpha\beta}^2(l^2, q, k; m^2) \right]$$
(I.11)

with

$$\tilde{I}_{\alpha\beta}^{1} = -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ g_{\alpha\beta} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2D} Q^{2} s \right] R - k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} \frac{Q^{2}}{D} \left[ R - Q^{2} s - \frac{3}{2D} Q^{2} s R \right] + q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R k^{2} + l^{4} s - \frac{3}{2D} k^{2} Q^{2} s R \right] \right\}$$

$$- (k_{\alpha}q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha}k_{\beta}) \frac{1}{D} \left[ Rqk - l^{2}Q^{2}s - \frac{3}{2D}Q^{2}qksR \right]$$

$$- m^{2} \left\{ g_{\alpha\beta} \left[ (k^{2} - Q^{2}) + \frac{1}{2D}sR \right] \right]$$

$$+ k_{\alpha}k_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - Q^{2}s + Q^{4} - \frac{3}{2D}Q^{2}sR \right]$$

$$+ q_{\alpha}q_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ (l^{2} + k^{2})^{2} - k^{2}Q^{2} + \frac{3}{2D}k^{2}sR \right]$$

$$+ (k_{\alpha}q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha}k_{\beta}) \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - (l^{2} + k^{2})(qk - Q^{2}) + Q^{2}qk - \frac{3}{2D}qksR \right]$$

$$+ 2m^{4} \left\{ g_{\alpha\beta} - k_{\alpha}k_{\beta} \frac{Q^{2}}{D} + q_{\alpha}q_{\beta} \frac{k^{2}}{D} - (k_{\alpha}q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha}k_{\beta}) \frac{qk}{D} \right\}$$
(I.12)

and

$$\tilde{I}_{\alpha\beta}^{2} = \frac{s}{2} \left\{ g_{\alpha\beta} \left[ k^{2} + \frac{1}{2D} (Q^{2} + k^{2}) R \right] \right. \\
+ k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - Q^{2} (Q^{2} + k^{2}) - \frac{3}{2D} Q^{2} (Q^{2} + k^{2}) R \right] \\
- q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - k^{2} (Q^{2} + k^{2}) - \frac{3}{2D} k^{2} (Q^{2} + k^{2}) R \right] \\
- (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha} k_{\beta}) \frac{1}{D} q k (Q^{2} + k^{2}) \left[ 1 + \frac{3}{2D} R \right] \right\} \\
- m^{2} \left\{ -g_{\alpha\beta} \left[ Q^{2} - \frac{1}{2D} s R \right] + k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - 2Q^{2} (qk - Q^{2}) - \frac{3}{2D} Q^{2} s R \right] \right. \\
+ q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \frac{1}{D} \left[ R + 2k^{2} (qk - Q^{2}) + \frac{3}{2D} k^{2} s R \right] \\
+ (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha} k_{\beta}) \frac{1}{D} \left[ R - (qk)^{2} + 2qkQ^{2} + Q^{2}k^{2} - \frac{3}{2D} qksR \right] \right\} \\
- 2m^{4} \left\{ g_{\alpha\beta} - k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} \frac{Q^{2}}{D} + q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \frac{k^{2}}{D} - (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + q_{\alpha} k_{\beta}) \frac{qk}{D} \right\}. \tag{I.13}$$

Equation (I.11) can be represented in the form

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)} = A_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{D}} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ qk + \frac{1}{4Dqk} (k^2 - Q^2) \left( 2(qk)^2 + k^2 Q^2 \right) s \right] \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ Q^2 + \frac{1}{2D} \left( 2(qk)^2 + k^2 Q^2 \right) s \right] \frac{m^2}{qk} - \frac{2}{l^2} \frac{m^4}{qk} \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{1}{2l^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2D} Q^2 s \right] k^2 Q^2 - \frac{1}{l^4} \left[ k^2 - Q^2 - \frac{1}{2D} k^2 Q^2 s \right] m^2 \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{2}{l^4} m^4 - \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2D} k^2 s \right] \right\}$$

$$+ B_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{D}} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ qk + \frac{1}{4Dqk} (k^2 - Q^2) \left( 2(qk)^2 - k^2 Q^2 \right) s \right] \right.$$

$$+ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ -4qk + 3Q^2 + \frac{3}{2D} \left( 2(qk)^2 + k^2 Q^2 \right) s \right] \frac{m^2}{qk} - \frac{2}{l^2} \frac{m^4}{qk}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2l^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{3}{2D} Q^2 s \right] k^2 Q^2 - \frac{1}{l^4} \left[ k^2 - Q^2 - \frac{3}{2D} k^2 Q^2 s \right] m^2$$

$$- \frac{2}{l^4} m^4 - \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + \frac{3}{2D} k^2 s \right] \right\}, \tag{I.14}$$

where

$$A_{\alpha\beta} = \left(g_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{k_{\alpha}k_{\beta}}{k^{2}}\right),$$

$$B_{\alpha\beta} = \left(q_{\alpha} - k_{\alpha}\frac{qk}{k^{2}}\right)\left(q_{\beta} - k_{\beta}\frac{qk}{k^{2}}\right)\frac{k^{2}}{D}.$$
(I.15)

From Eqs. (I.14) and (I.15) one can see that  $C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)}$  obeys a condition

$$k^{\alpha}C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)} = 0. \tag{I.16}$$

In deriving (I.14) from (I.11)–(I.13) we took into account that  $l_{\pm}^2 \to l_{\mp}^2$  at  $l^2 \to 2qk - l^2$ ,  $l_{\pm}^2$  being defined by Eq. (I.7).

Note that the difference of the structure function under consideration,  $\Delta F_2$ , is defined by  $\Delta C_{\alpha\beta}^{(r)}$  (r=a,b). The analysis shows that a leading contribution into  $\Delta C_{\alpha\beta}^{(r)}$  comes from the region  $-k^2 \sim m^2 \ll Q^2$ . Rejecting terms  $\mathcal{O}(k^2/Q^2)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(m^2/Q^2)$ , we obtain the formula

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(a)} = A_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left[ \frac{1}{l^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2(qk)^2} Q^2 s \right) + \frac{1}{2l^4} \frac{k^2 Q^2}{qk} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2(qk)^2} Q^2 s + 2 \frac{m^2}{k^2} \right) \right]$$

$$- \frac{1}{2(qk)} + B_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left[ \frac{1}{l^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2(qk)^2} Q^2 s \right) \right]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2l^4} \frac{k^2 Q^2}{qk} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{2(qk)^2} Q^2 s + 2 \frac{m^2}{k^2} \right) - \frac{1}{2(qk)} \right]. \tag{I.17}$$

Now let us consider the function  $C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)}$  (see Eqs. (12)). The result of our calculations is of the form

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)}(Q^2, k^2, qk) = \frac{3\alpha_s}{2\pi^2} \frac{Q^2}{D} \int d^4r \left[ \frac{1}{l^4} J_{\alpha\beta}^1(r, q, k; m^2) + \frac{1}{l^2(2qk - l^2)} J_{\alpha\beta}^2(r, q, k; m^2) \right] \times \delta_+((q - r)^2 - m^2) \delta_+((k + r)^2 - m^2), \tag{I.18}$$

where the contributions from ladder and crossed diagrams are, respectively,

$$J_{\alpha\beta}^{1} = g_{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{2} k^{4} s + r_{\alpha} r_{\beta} 2 [R - k^{2} (2l^{2} - Q^{2}) + k^{2} s)]$$

$$+ k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} 2 [R - k^{2} (l^{2} - Q^{2})]$$

$$+ (r_{\alpha} k_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} r_{\beta}) [2R - k^{2} (3l^{2} - 2Q^{2}) + k^{2} s]$$

$$+ (r_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + r_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) l^{2} k^{2} + (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) l^{2} k^{2}$$
(I.19)

and

$$J_{\alpha\beta}^{2} = -g_{\alpha\beta} \frac{1}{2} k^{4} s + r_{\alpha} r_{\beta} 2(R - k^{4}) + k_{\alpha} k_{\beta} (l^{2} - Q^{2}) k^{2}$$

$$- q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} (l^{2} + k^{2}) k^{2} + (r_{\alpha} k_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} r_{\beta}) [R + k^{2} (l^{2} - k^{2} - qk)]$$

$$- (r_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + r_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) [R - k^{2} (l^{2} + k^{2} - qk)]$$

$$- (k_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + k_{\alpha} q_{\beta}) \frac{1}{2} [2R - k^{2} (k^{2} - Q^{2})].$$
(I.20)

Using formulae (I.5) and (I.8) we obtain

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)} = -A_{\alpha\beta} \frac{3\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{Q^2}{D^{3/2}} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{4l^2} \left[ \frac{1}{qk} (k^2 - Q^2) \right] \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{1}{D} \left( qk(3k^2 - 3Q^2 + 4qk) - 2k^2 Q^2 \right) \right] k^2 s$$

$$+ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ 2(k^2 + qk) + \frac{1}{qk} k^2 (k^2 + Q^2) \right] m^2$$

$$- \frac{1}{2l^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2D} Q^2 s \right] k^4 s - \frac{1}{l^4} k^2 s m^2$$

$$+ l^2 \frac{1}{2D} (k^2 + qk) s - \frac{1}{2D} (k^2 + qk) (k^2 + 2qk) s \right\}$$

$$- B_{\alpha\beta} \frac{3\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{Q^2}{D^{3/2}} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{4l^2} \left[ -\frac{1}{qk} (k^2 - Q^2) \right] \right.$$

$$+ \frac{3}{D} \left( qk(3k^2 - 3Q^2 + 4qk) - 2k^2 Q^2 \right) k^2 s$$

$$+ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ 2(k^2 + qk) + \frac{1}{qk} k^2 (k^2 + Q^2) \right] m^2$$

$$- \frac{1}{2l^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{3}{2D} Q^2 s \right] k^4 s - \frac{1}{l^4} k^2 s m^2 + l^2 \frac{3}{2D} (k^2 + qk) s$$

$$- \frac{3}{2D} (k^2 + qk) (k^2 + 2qk) s + s \right\}. \tag{I.21}$$

At  $-k^2 \sim m^2 \ll Q^2$  we get from (I.21)

$$C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)} = -A_{\alpha\beta} \frac{3\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{Q^2}{(qk)^2} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ \frac{(qk - Q^2)s}{(qk)^2} + \frac{2m^2}{k^2} \right] k^2 \right.$$

$$- \frac{1}{2l^4} \frac{k^4s}{qk} \left[ 1 - \frac{Q^2s}{2(qk)^2} + \frac{2m^2}{k^2} \right] - \frac{s}{qk} + l^2 \frac{s}{2(qk)^2} \right\}$$

$$- B_{\alpha\beta} \frac{3\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{Q^2}{(qk)^2} \int_{l_-^2}^{l_+^2} dl^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{l^2} \left[ \frac{(3qk - 2Q^2)s}{(qk)^2} + \frac{2m^2}{k^2} \right] k^2 \right.$$

$$- \frac{1}{2l^4} \frac{k^4s}{qk} \left[ 1 - \frac{3Q^2s}{2(qk)^2} + \frac{2m^2}{k^2} \right] - \frac{2s}{qk} + l^2 \frac{3s}{2(qk)^2} \right\}. \tag{I.22}$$

When calculating  $C_{\alpha\beta}^{(b)}$  we used the replacement

$$\frac{p_{\alpha}p_{\beta}}{\sqrt{(pq)^2 + Q^2M^2}} \to \frac{k_{\alpha}k_{\beta}}{\sqrt{(qk)^2 + Q^2k^2}}.$$
 (I.23)

This results in power corrections that are, however, ignored everywhere in our consideration.

### Appendix II

In anology with quark distribution, scalar gluon distribution inside the nucleon,  $D_g$ , can be defined by considering deep inelastic scattering with scalar gauge—invariant gluonic currents

$$J(x) = \frac{1}{4} (G_{\mu\nu}^a(x))^2.$$
 (II.1)

Let us define  $D_g$  via a gluonic structure function F:

$$D(Q^2, x) = \frac{1}{x} F(Q^2, x) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \text{Disc}T,$$
 (II.2)

where

$$T = i \int d^4z \exp(iqz) \langle p|TJ(z)J(0)|p\rangle. \tag{II.3}$$

Function F is given by the formula

$$\frac{1}{x}F = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \left[ \Pi_{\alpha\beta}(q,k) \frac{1}{k^4} \tilde{\Gamma}^{\alpha\beta}(k,p) \right]. \tag{II.4}$$

Here  $\Pi_{\alpha\beta}$  is a gluonic partonometer

$$\Pi_{\alpha\beta} = -g_{\alpha\beta} 2\pi \delta((q+k)^2)Q^2, \tag{II.5}$$

while  $\tilde{\Gamma}^{\alpha\beta}$  means an imaginary part of the virtual gluon–nucleon amplitude with tensor parts of the gluonic propagators  $d_{\alpha\alpha'}$  included. So, we have by definition

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{\alpha\beta} = d_{\alpha\alpha'}(k)d_{\beta\beta'}(k)\Gamma^{\alpha'\beta'},\tag{II.6}$$

where the gluon distribution  $\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  enters Eq. (4).

Tensor  $\tilde{\Gamma}_{\alpha\beta}$  has the following Lorentz structure

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{\alpha\beta} = d_{\alpha\beta}(p)\tilde{\Gamma}_1 + d_{\alpha\beta}(k)\tilde{\Gamma}_2 + \left(p_\alpha - k_\alpha \frac{pn}{kn}\right) \left(p_\beta - k_\beta \frac{pn}{kn}\right) \frac{1}{k^2}\tilde{\Gamma}_3 + n_\alpha n_\beta \frac{k^2}{(kn)^2}\tilde{\Gamma}_4,\tag{II.7}$$

with  $\tilde{\Gamma}_i = \tilde{\Gamma}_i(k^2, M^2, pk)$ . Then from Eqs. (II.6), (II.7) and (13) the relation between  $\tilde{\Gamma}_i$  and  $\Gamma_i$  can easily be obtained. In particular, we have

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_3 = \Gamma_2 + \Gamma_4. \tag{II.8}$$

If we substitute (II.5), (II.7) into (II.4), we get in LLA

$$D(Q^2, Q_0^2, x) = \int_{Q_0^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dk^2}{k^4} \int \frac{d^2k_{\perp}}{2(2\pi)^4} \left[ \tilde{\Gamma}_1(k^2, k_{\perp}, x) + \tilde{\Gamma}_2(k^2, k_{\perp}, x) + \frac{1 - x}{2x^2} \tilde{\Gamma}_3(k^2, k_{\perp}, x) \right]. \quad (\text{II}.9)$$

As can be seen, at small x the gluon distribution (II.9) is mainly defined by the invariant function  $\tilde{\Gamma}_3$  (or, equivalently, by the combination  $\Gamma_2 + \Gamma_4$ ).

#### References

- [1] J. Chrin, Proc. of the 27th International Conference on High Energy Physics, Glasgow, 1994 (Eds. P.J. Bussey and I.G. Knowles), p. 893; A. De Angelis, Talk at the EPS Conference on High Energy Physics, Brussels, 1995 (to appear in the Proceedings); W.J. Metzger, *ibid.*
- [2] V.A. Petrov and A.V. Kisselev, Z. Phys. C66 (1995) 453; Nucl. Phys. B (Proc. Suppl.) 39B, C (1995) 364. Early qualitative indications on the energy independence of the multiplicity difference were made by Yu. Dokshitzer, V.A. Khoze and S.I. Troyan, J. Phys. G 17 (1991) 1481, 1602.
- [3] A.V. Kisselev and V.A. Petrov, Preprint IHEP 95-115, Protvino, 1995; Talk at the EPS Conference on High Energy Physics, Brussels, 1995 (to appear in the Proceedings).
- [4] S. Catani, M. Ciafaloni and F. Hautmann, Nucl. Phys. B366 (1991) 135.
- [5] J. Kwieciński, A.D. Martin and P.J. Sutton, Preprint DTP/96/02, Durham, 1996.
- [6] H1 Collaboration, S. Aid et al., Preprint DESY 96-039, Hamburg, 1996.
- [7] A. De Roeck, Talk at the 2nd Kraków Epiphany Conference, Kraków, 1996 (to appear in the Proceedings).
- [8] A.D. Martin, R.G. Roberts and W.J. Stirling, Phys. Rev. D50 (1994) 6734.

## Figure Captions

**Figs. 1a-1d:**  $\Delta C(\eta, y)$  as a function of the variable  $\eta$  at several fixed values of y.

Figs. 2a-2d:  $C(\eta, y)$  (continuous curves) and  $\Delta C(\eta, y)$  (dashed curves) as functions of the variable  $\eta$  ( $\eta \geq 0$ ) at several fixed values of y.



